

grown-ups than it does with the very young child and his parents.

And even in the home it will be affected by the attitude and behaviour of the parents as well as by the particular psychology of the child. Many children and many parents are able to deal with the difficulties of this rivalry in mutual consideration and understanding. Some of them are able to cover it up or transmute it altogether; but no psycho-analytic theory is needed to show us the frequent instances of serious failure. Another general problem of early education thus obviously arises here.

In the nursery school, one does not usually see such rivalries anything like so plainly and acutely as in the home, partly because the presence of the many other children prevents the triangular situation arising between two adults and one child, partly because there is not as a rule any special relationship between any one child and any one member of the staff. Nor does the behaviour of the adults in charge lend itself so readily as that of the mother or the nurse at home to highly charged emotions; and interest is much more widely diffused.

Those instances in the Malting House School records where the feeling of rivalry with an adult was so marked each arose from a specific set of circumstances. Dan's feelings about Miss B. and myself, for example, were so acute largely because Miss B. had been Dan's governess before the school began. This special claim of Dan on Miss B. in its turn heightened Frank's hostility to her, itself so vivid in the early days of the school, although of course it died down later on as Miss B.'s disinterested relation with him and all the other children was built up. Frank's hostility to Dan's father (and to me when Dan's mother was openly affectionate

to Dan in the presence of the other children)
was again
heightened by the special relationship of the
adult in question.

3. In addition to the two main lines of
rivalry we have
now considered there was throughout almost
the whole
history of the school a special situation of
acute rivalry
between certain of the most influential of the
children, a
situation which did not fall into either of these
two main
patterns. It approximated much more closely to
the sexual
rivalries among *equals* in grown-up life. We
were in fact
after the first two terms never without a "
triangle " of